

Amendments To The Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Method A method to determine the position of a dental implant (2) which is fixed in the bone of the jaw (13) of a person, comprising the steps of:

- fixing at least one marker element (3) which produces a strong contrast in imaging techniques to a free end (1) of said implant (2) in a detachable manner whereby the marker element (3) is situated at a distance (d) from the free end (1),

- generating whereby an image is formed of the jaw or of a reproduction model of this the jaw by means of X-rays or magnetic resonance, which wherein the jaw is provided with contains the implant (2) with said marker element, characterised in that at least one marker element (3) is provided on said implant (2) which produces a strong contrast in imaging techniques,

- whereby determining the position of the marker element (3) in relation to the jaw is determined on the basis of the said image which is formed with by said X-rays or via by said magnetic resonance, and

- whereby identifying the position of said implant (2) is then derived from the observed position of the marker element (3).

2. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 1, characterised in that further comprising the step of:

fixing a support (4) with said marker element (3), ~~preferably made of a material which is transparent to X-rays, is fixed~~ to said implant (2) in a detachable manner.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 2, characterised in that further comprising the step of:

fixing said support (4) with the marker element (3) ~~is fixed~~ to the free end (1) of said implant (2), such that this support (4) extends in the prolongation of the implant (2) and the marker element (3) is situated at a ~~certain~~ distance (d) from ~~this~~ the free end (1).

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 3, characterised in that wherein, for an the implant (2) ~~with~~ has a central axis (10), the orientation and position of ~~this the~~ central axis (10) ~~is being~~ determined by ~~means of~~ defining a straight line through a centre point of said marker element (3) which is parallel to a longitudinal side (14) of the formed image of said support (4).

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 3, characterised in that further comprising the step of:

determining the orientation and position of the central axis (10) of the implant (2) ~~is defined by~~ defining ~~determining~~ the centre of gravity of ~~the pixels of the~~

~~latter, representing the implant (2) or of said support (4) in said image,~~ as well as the centre of gravity of the image of said marker element (3), whereby these centres of gravity are then mutually connected by means of a straight line.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~any one of claims 3 to claim 5,~~ characterised in that further comprising the step of:
determining the position of the implant (2) in relation to the jaw on the basis of the orientation and the position of the axis (10) of the implant (2) and the ~~previously determined distance (d) between said marker element (3) and said free end (1) of the implant (2), the position of the implant (2) in relation to the jaw is~~ determined.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6 claim 1,~~ characterised in that wherein a second marker element (6) is fixed in relation to the implant (2), with a centre point which is not situated on the central axis (10) of said implant (2), ~~whereby~~ wherein, on the basis of the observed position of ~~this~~ the second marker element (6), the angular position of the implant (2) in relation to ~~its~~ the central axis (10) is determined.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7 claim 1,~~ characterised in that wherein use is made of a spherical marker element (3, 6).

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1 to 8 claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein use is made of a marker element (3,6) which contains at least tantalum, platinum or tungsten.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1 to 9 claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said image is formed by means of computer tomography.

Claims 11-14 (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) ~~Support~~ A support with a marker element (3,6) for determining the position of a dental implant (2) which is fixed to the jaw (13) of a person, in relation to this jaw (13), ~~more particularly for applying the method according to any one of claims 1 to 10, characterised in that said~~ wherein the marker element (3,6) produces a strong contrast in said image compared to said implant (2) itself[[.]], wherein the support (4) has means at one far end to be fixed to said implant (2) in a detachable manner, whereas the other far end of the support (4) comprises said market element (3,6), wherein said means for fixing the support to the implant (2) comprise a securing pin (11).

16. (Currently Amended) ~~Support~~ The support according to claim 15, ~~characterised in that it comprises~~ wherein a sleeve (5) with a protrusion (15) whose dimensions correspond practically to those of a recess (8) provided in the head (1) of

the implant (2) on which this support must be fixed, such that said protrusion (15) can be placed in a practically fitting manner in said recess (8).

17. (New) The support according to claim 15, wherein said securing pin (11) is coaxial to the support.

18. (New) The support according to claim 15 or 16, wherein said securing pin (11) is externally threaded.

19. (New) The support according to claim 15 or 16, wherein said marker element (3,6) contains at least one of the metals from the group formed of tantalum, platinum and tungsten.

20. (New) The support according to claim 15 or 16, wherein it is mainly formed of a material which is transparent to X-rays.

21. (New) The method according to claim 2, wherein said support is made of a material which is transparent to X-rays.